

**Comment of the Scientific Advisor for the dissertation of
Dosmukhameduly Gaziz**



**“State policy of Kazakhstan to prevent religious extremism among youth”
presented for the PhD degree in 6D050200 – Political science.**

I am pleased to report that Mr. Dosmukhamedov's dissertation is an independent and original scientific research that attracts interests from academic community in addition to policy corners. This dissertation applies developmental approach to study of defining religious extremism. For example, what is extremism itself, how to define and qualify religious extremism and how to counter it. This work also focuses on the transformation process from one category to another. Moreover, there is some important empirical data on Kazakhstan's case.

This dissertation addresses important research questions, including: What are the conceptual aspects of the study of the phenomenon of religious extremism? How to study the theoretical framework and methodology for the study of religious extremism in modern youth environment. How to analyze potential preventive measures and a system for preventing the influence of religious extremism on the youth environment? How to study international experience in prevention of religious extremism among young people. How to conduct a political and legal analysis of the state system of countering religious extremism in the Republic of Kazakhstan: legislative, institutional and social aspects. And, finally, how to carry out an empirical study of the factors and prerequisites of the social base of religious extremism among young people

The dissertation takes into account the methods of political science such as systematic approach, method of synthesis and analysis, comparative and normative, as well as the method of political analysis. In one way or another, these methods consider the notion of the research. However, they do not fully answer practical questions of Kazakh reality. This dissertation aims to fill this research gap by the attempt to conduct comprehensive research in the field of assessing the effectiveness of the system of countering religious extremism. The study makes it possible to determine the most problematic aspects in the framework of the state's youth policy, as well as to identify potential risks

In particular, this work collects, compares, and discusses the definitions and facts of the religious extremism and the counter measures. A study of the perception of young people of the phenomenon of religious extremism was carried out, a back reaction was formed on their part in terms of factors that play in favor of radical ideology. The research results were formed within the framework of proposals and recommendations for further improvement of the system of counteracting religious extremism. There is no question, that in addition to its academic value, there is also a practical application for this dissertation topic.

The research activities for this dissertation was carried out under my supervision during more than 3 years via email, conference calls, and face-to-face meetings. The author showed determination in studying a significant number of English-language literature on the theory of international relations in addition to mastering the local Kazakh and Russian language literature. I think that Mr. Dosmukhameduly skillfully reflected on the approaches used by Kazakh scholars in this regard. This development by itself adds to the originality of his dissertation. All in all, this dissertation demonstrates that the author was able to combine very well the works of the Western and local Kazakh scholars.

As my testimony indicates, I confidently recommend the dissertation of Gaziz Dosmukhameduly "**State policy of Kazakhstan to prevent religious extremism among youth**" for defense.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Seyit Ali Avcu', is written over a circular blue stamp. The stamp contains the text 'Журналистика' (Journalism) at the top, 'КСЖП' (Kazakhstan Journalists' Union) in the center, and 'факультеті' (Faculty) at the bottom.

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